

THE TIGER TIMES

December, 2015

Mr. Nicholas Jones Jr. Principal

Mrs. Ann Johnston, Asst. Principal



Dear VES Families,

Happy Holidays from the staff at VES! This is a great time to reflect as 2015 comes to an end. Please spend as much time with your families over this break. I have included some suggestions.

Go outside. Be sure you schedule time every day to be outdoors. Walk, skate, ski—just get active outside with your child. Active children tend to do better in school!

Look for a movie. Select a movie based on a children's book. (Ask about selections at your local library.) Read the book first, then watch the movie. Compare and contrast the book and the movie.

Prepare food together. Enjoy special foods associated with the holiday season. With your child, prepare foods you remember from your childhood. Share your memories. Either way, your child will be reinforcing math and science skills as you cook together.

Attend local events. Attend places in Manchester that will interest kids—if you know where to look. Check out a museum. There may be admission discounts throughout winter break.

Volunteer. Set aside time for a family volunteer activity. Spend time visiting a homeless shelter to volunteer with serving meals. Your child will learn that the best gift is the gift of service.

Happy Holidays,
Principal Jones



A VERY SPECIAL SCHOLAR

We would like to acknowledge Amari Vitkus who is a student in Mr. Suraci's class. Amari inspired Mrs. Bilodeau, a reading tutor in Grade 5, to decorate a tree with her for a silent auction benefitting the Alzheimer's Association. The "Festival of Trees" was held on Friday, December 18, 2015 at Brookdale Senior Living Center in South Windsor, Connecticut. Their nail polish themed tree, "A Splash of Color" was named by Amari and was a huge hit. Proceeds from the auction will benefit individuals living with Alzheimer disease. Mrs. Bilodeau said that she is thankful to Amari for reminding her of the spirit of Christmas.

Amari, you are a very special and creative young lady with a very big heart.



Our writers have been working very hard to capture their thoughts and ideas on paper during writer's workshop. In this issue of "The Tiger Times", some of our writers are sharing their pieces with us.

WINTER

Windy weather

Icy snow

Nice snow

Turning lights for Christmas

Earmuffs

Runny nose

Written by **Kassandra Vargas**
Mr. Nunes, Grade Two

I used scissors at school. I use scissors in art.
I use scissors when I do my homework.

Written by **Grace Flamingo**
Ms. Smith, Kindergarten

I use scissors for art and at home and school.

Written by **Marcella Collins**
Ms. Smith, Kindergarten

I use scissors at art and at home. I use scissors to
cut out paper.

Written by **Jayshawn Cater**
Ms. Smith, Kindergarten

One night I was getting in my car to go shopping to
Macys. I was wearing a red shirt and a green shirt I
was looking at the moon. Finally I got a Frozen dress
for Thanksgiving.

Written by **Bavithra Rajmonhan**
Ms. Iadarola, Grade one

One sunny day there was a bear. It was a
friendly bear. The bear went to school. We
saw the bear in the library. It had glasses on
and was reading. Then it went to eat lunch.
It had a cheese pizza. After the bear ate, it
went to the gym. The bear started running.
Then it got tired and did math. When it
finished math, it went outside. Then Mr.
Jones sent the bear home on the bus.

Written by **Ms. Pritchett's Kindergarten Class**

First, we gathered leaves. Next, we gathered
more leaves. After that we took a brace to lay
on the pile. Finally, I gathered more leaves.

Written by **Mahadi Khaleque**
Mrs. Redman, Grade One

First, I went to the park. Next, I went on the
swings. Then I went on the slide. Finally I
went home.

Written by **Ari'Asjah**
Mrs. Redman, Grade One

PENGUINS

Pole

Emperor

Nests

Galapagos Islands

Underwater

Ice

New Zealand

Slide

Written by **Mrs. Martin's Grade One**

When I went to the beach in Maine with my cousins at Pine Point Beach. My cousin Katie hoped it would be low tide so she could find hermit crabs. But it was high tide so we went boogie boarding instead. I hit the waves at the perfect time. So did my friend Connor. I told him lets go at the same time. He said, "Sure Cassie." So we waited for some waves and went. We went so fast I fell off my board. It was really fun. Then my cousin joined us. He was so unlucky because he didn't catch the waves in time. But Connor and I did. After we ate lunch, and then the black biting flies bit us in the legs.

Written by Cassie Riley
Ms. Wilson, Grade Four

Remember that new kid Wall-e that got picked to fight in a war. His name is pronounced Wally. Here's another story about him. "Wally, time for school," said his mother. "Good morning mother," said Wally. So Wally grabbed his stuff and zoomed to school. But half way the flash stopped him. "All villains escaped prison," said Flash. "Ok, I didn't want to go to school anyway," said Wally, "just kidding." So Wally got his suit on and ran off with Flash. "How come we weren't invited?" said Flash. "Oof! Yah," said Wally. "Bam, pow, blamo, koed, puff, cu, wow they were dusty," said Wally. Both the heroes jumped into to air and yelled "ya." "Oof, och," said Wally. "Ok I'll tie them up and go to school," said Wally. "All right kid you can go," said Flash. Well that's all for today kid. Oops wrong track. Well that's another adventure with Wall-e. It's Wally with a y.

Written by Jacob DeCormier
Mr. Opalenik, Grade Four

It was October 8, 2015, and I was with my dad. We were going fishing. It took a long time to get where we were going to fish. I used a wooden fishing rod, and I had to wear a big brown coat and some blue jogging pants. My dad told me to set up the rod on the shore. It was 12:00pm when I caught the big fish! It was the first fish of the day! It was yellow with black gills. I had to pull the fish in for 20 minutes. I was so afraid that it was going to cut the line, but it did not cut the line. So that was good! By the time I got home I was pooped, but I promised that I would help dad cut the fish up and cook it. I did. I told my dad that I had the best day of my life. My dad was happy that I had a fun time that day. My step sister and brother asked me what I did today because they were not there this weekend. I told them that I went fishing. My step sister loves to go fishing with me and my dad. I will always remember this day.

Written by Logan Azud
Ms. Hitchman, Grade Three

Snow

Snow feels like a soft blanket.
Snow looks like a white pillow.
Snow tastes like cold water.
Snow sounds like silence.
Snow smells like winter.

Written by Mikayla Coombs
Mrs. Frankovitch, Grade Two



When I went on the field trip, I held one of the chickens. I held other ones like the brown one or the golden one. But, by mistake, I let one out of my hands.

Next on the field trip, I went in the bouncy house. I did a back flip forward, a flip, a side flip, and I played tag in there. I got tagged one time. Base was the yellow pole and outside the bouncy house was base too. It was really fun in there. I also fell down in the bouncy house a couple of times, and it was still fun.

After I went in the corn maze, some of us were holding flags. I didn't hold one. There were these steps that when you climb up you can see the whole corn maze so you can find your way out. The corn maze is really big and I found my way out.

Then I fed the goats and one of the goats licked my hand. It was kind of funny. The baby goats were cute they had lots of fur. The adult goats kept walking around the baby goats. They just were waiting there for their food.

Later we went on the hayride. I sat next to Jozlen and Breezy. We went deep in the woods. The hay ride was long, but it was fun. The hay was weird. When I sat down I saw lots of stuff even fake stuff. It was fun.

Lastly we went to have ice cream, and I took chocolate. It was good.

*Written by Tanisha Chaturgun
Ms. Rosemond, Grade Three*



Dear Lutz Museum,
Thank you for coming to our classroom to tell us about the Podunk people. We liked it!
Kasim liked the drum.
Promise liked the book with the houses.
Christopher liked the footprints.
Jaz liked the antler.
K'Mahree liked the rattle.
Jaleh liked the footprints.
Kelsey liked the footprints.
Caleb liked the antler.
Isaiah liked the rattle.
Hadjer liked the maps.
Colton liked the footprints.
Owen liked the mortar and pestle.
Ryann liked the gourd
Leon liked the footprints.
Thank you for the good stuff to see and hold,
and the good work you did for us.

Written by Ms. Kovak's Kindergarten Class

CELEBRATE

Celebrating my accomplishments
Eating with my teacher
Love for my classmates
Eating in a lunchroom everyday
Being a star and getting exemplary
Reaching to 15 on my homework chart,
So I can get a prize
Always helping my friends when in need
Thinking math thoughts out loud, so the teacher
will be proud.
Each math test, I will get 100 so my friends will
Say, "Good job!"

Written by Ms. Jones' Grade Two

"Wake up Shawn," mom yelled as she was washing dishes in the kitchen.

Shawn mumbled, "I don't want to wake up, I'm way too tired."

"Wake up!" she shouted even louder from down stairs washing dishes. OK, I'm up I'm up. Shawn thought as he got out of his warm bed. He put a nice outfit on and brushed his teeth. Shawn ran down the stairs. He fixed up his favorite breakfast...eggs and bacon.

Shawn left home leaving mom to think that he did all his chores. Mom yelled out the door, "Don't forget your phone!" Shawn rushed inside to grab his phone that was charging on the kitchen counter. "Bye mom," Shawn mumbled as he slammed the door shut behind him. Mom walked into the room to see if Shawn did his chores correctly. When Shawn was walking, his phone started to ring. He reached into his pocket and pulled out his phone. When he answered it his mother was on the other end, and Shawn could tell that his mom was really mad because he didn't do his chores.

"Hello?" Shawn tried to make his voice sound polite as he spoke in a deep voice. His mother was like the queen of thunder and lightning because she was very disappointed in him. Shawn heard the words that meant to him... go back home and do his CHORES! It was a good five minute walk back to his throw-up green colored house meaning the color of the house. Later that day, Shawn got home sweating while knocking on the door. His first step into the house his mother laid the law down on him. Oh and by the way, Shawn had a school dance until he blew it even though he doesn't know that he blew it. Shawn tried to do his chores like a cheetah. After he was done, Shawn told his mother that he was one. Shawn's mother said it was very sloppy on me, but she let it roll off her back like a ball. Shawn wanted to race to the school before the bell rang. He beat the time by five minutes left. Later that day Shawn met up with his friends near his locker. "Sorry brochacho, got to go to health class for my first subject." "Don't want to be late!"

Later that day it was time for his last class...GYM CLASS. Shawn loves gym class, but not when they play dodgeball. "Ok knuckleheads, time to play some dodgeball,"

shouted the gym teacher! Shawn wanted to sit out for a while. After he was out of school, Shawn and his mom talked about the whole issue thing earlier this morning and ended the talk with a hug and a kiss. Mom told Shawn to not let it happen again."

TWO YEARS LATER

"Mom I'm leaving for school!"

"You forgot to do your CHORES!!!!!"

"Fudg cakes!!!!!"

Written by Marcus Gonzalez

Miss Milton. Grade Five

Scholar

Scholars do their homework on time

Children being honest

Happy teachers while they teach

Often being safe

Learning everyday

Add and subtract in math

Reach your reading goal

Written by Fajr Waheed

Mrs. Patterson, Grade Two

Winter

Winter is coming,

And animals need to get their food.

Snow will come down,

And kids will play in the snow.

Written by Mrs. Walsh's Kindergarten Class

I AM THANKFUL FOR ...

My family's love is as big as a heart.

My friends are as busy as bee's.

My school is as huge as the ocean.

My education covers me like a big blanket.

My pets are as crazy as the zoo

Written by Angela Nunez

Mrs. Johnson's, Grade Five